

## **When God 1001**

### Chapter 1001: Too Soon

The Forbidden Spear transformed into cannon form, an orange-red beam, horizontally blasting towards the Black Dragon on the sea.

Upon seeing this cannon, the odd man suddenly widened his eyes, full of incredulous suspicion: "What's going on? I can't be mistaken; his body definitely isn't at the Divine Position Level, so why is his Life Contract at that level instead? Strange, truly strange."

On the sea surface, the Black Dragon spat out Profound Light, colliding with the Forbidden Light.

The Forbidden Light, enhanced by the uncast skill, split evenly with the Profound Light; neither side gained any advantage, and the terrifying explosion of light burst on the sea, raising towering waves.

"The Divine Position Level contract of the Celestial Sea... What on earth is going on? Taking the Forbidden Contract of the Celestial Sea as a Life Contract, the person didn't ascend to the Divine Position, but the contract did!" The odd man became even more astonished, involuntarily looking towards the chairman.

The chairman replied with a smile: "Do you know the Light Planting Technique?"

"What Light Planting Technique? I've only heard of the Seed Spirit Technique." The odd man frowned.

"The Light Planting Technique is a kind of Light Condensation Technique he created himself; it should no longer be considered just a Light Condensation Technique; it's a whole new Light Planting Technique..." The chairman explained Li Xiu's creation of the Light Planting Technique.

The odd man was very amazed after hearing this: "What a Light Planting Technique, truly extraordinary, this child's talent might even surpass Guan Qingzhai. With such talent, how has he not yet ascended to the Divine Position? It's incredible."

"He wasn't a Trial Taker before, and the time he actually started entering the Trial Ground is roughly just about a year." The chairman said.

"A year?" The odd man stared blankly at Li Xiu fighting the Black Dragon in the distance, speaking with complex emotions: "He began entering the Trial Ground at over twenty years old... created the Light Planting Technique in a year... Life Contract ascended to the Divine Position... old friend... are you certain you're not joking with me?"

"Otherwise, what do you think my reason is for choosing him?" The chairman squinted his eyes and said.

"Wasn't it because of his looks and demeanor?" The odd man said.

"He also has to have skills that are commendable." The chairman said blandly.

"That's true. In this case, you have indeed invested heavily in him, pushing him to this level in just a year."

"Hehe, you might not believe it if I told you; I haven't really given him any resources. His current achievements have little to do with me. The greatest benefit I gave him was bringing him into the Eternal Heaven and giving him a Jade Token." The chairman said.

"Is there truly someone in this world with such talent and capability?" The odd man found it hard to believe.

"You're marveling too soon." The chairman responded with a smile.

The odd man assumed the chairman meant that Li Xiu's rapid development must have some flaws, so he nodded and said: "Such rapid development, and using an immature Light Planting Technique, naturally incurs some defects, which might be addressed later."

The chairman clicked his tongue but didn't say anything.

Li Xiu soared into the sky, battling that Black Dragon in mid-air; even his strongest attack skill, Uncast Bullet, couldn't harm it, while its abilities remained eerily unpredictable.

The Black Dragon never fully left the water; its power seemed endless, growing stronger and stronger, forcing Li Xiu not to confront it head-on.

Bang!

The Profound Light emitted by the Black Dragon resembled raging waves, possessing a majesty that's hard to imagine.

Li Xiu was shocked; he had never seen such terrifying Light of Truth. Even the top Divine Positions he had witnessed, strong as the three Eternal Corpses or Guan Jinghao, couldn't compare to the terrifying magnitude of this Black Dragon.

Moreover, the Black Dragon's Light of Truth was getting stronger, seemingly without any upper limit.

"Li Xiu is indeed extraordinary, but he is still too inexperienced to battle the Dragon King. Will you or I step in?" The odd man looked at the battle and asked.

"No hurry, let's watch a bit more." The chairman looked unhurried.

The odd man said: "You are also familiar with the Dragon King's abilities; in the Dead Sea, it's almost invincible. If Li Xiu had exerted all his strength after the first strike, he might have posed some threat to the Dragon King. Now there's no chance, and what's the point of just watching?"

The chairman smiled but said nothing, calmly watching the battle on the sea surface.

The odd man was puzzled: "His Life Contract's combat power is indeed strong, but it has been exhausted, and it can't harm the Black Dragon. His body is merely Spirit Casting; how will he fight? Use Demon Spirit? The Black Dragon fears nothing more than being besieged, and using a Divine Position Demon Spirit to win is unlikely."

The overwhelming Profound Light surrounded Li Xiu from all directions like towering waves, leaving him with nowhere to escape.

The Black Dragon, like a mythical dragon stirring up endless Profound Light, reached an unimaginable magnitude.

At least Li Xiu had never seen anyone's Light of Truth be as magnificent as this Black Dragon, almost without an upper limit.

With no avenue of escape, Li Xiu found himself trapped amid the billowing Profound Light.

"Really not going to intervene? It might be too late soon." The odd man said with some concern.

"No need." The chairman stated with determination.

The odd man wanted to say something more but suddenly saw a hint of blue erupt from within the towering wave-like Profound Light.

The wave-like Profound Light was frozen layer upon layer in the sky. Blue light spread rapidly along the layers of Profound Light, in the blink of an eye freezing all the Profound Light in the sky, like a frozen sea suspended in the sky.

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The Black Dragon ceased its emission of Profound Light and submerged into the depths of the Dead Sea, thus avoiding the injury from the blue Frozen Light, with vast patches of blue ice forming on the sea surface.

Crack!

The frozen sea in the sky shattered, and Li Xiu's figure emerged into the air, his body radiating an eerie blue glow.

"That is... the Spirit Casting of the Divine Position Contract... Could he be a dual Life Contract?" The strange man's sharp eyes immediately discerned the situation on Li Xiu's body.

"I told you, you sighed too early," the president squinted his eyes and smiled.

It was only then that the strange man realized the true meaning of the president's previous words, which meant not that there was an issue with Li Xiu's ascension, but rather that there was more to be astonished by.

Splash!

The seawater erupted like a volcano, with the Black Dragon breaking through the water, its eyes glowing with white light.

Hovering in the sky, Li Xiu unhesitatingly hoisted the Forbidden Cannon, aiming it at the Black Dragon, and once again fired.

This time, the beam was tainted with a layer of icy blue light, and upon contact with the Light of the White Eye, it immediately froze the Light of the White Eye in midair.

However, in the next moment, the Light of the White Eye grew stronger, with the freezing speed of the Light of the Death Evil Spirit unable to keep up with the outbreak speed of the Light of the White Eye.

It was like extinguishing a fire – water can indeed quickly extinguish and cool down a fire, but if the fire is sufficiently strong, even draining a river would be like a drop in the bucket.

No one knew the true origin of this Black Dragon; the amount of its Light of Truth was more than anything Li Xiu had ever seen. The Light of the Death Evil Spirit might have restrained it, but with the sheer amount of the Black Dragon's Light of Truth, Li Xiu's Light of the Death Evil Spirit could not exert much effect.

"Surely, such talent would satisfy that person, so there's no need to subject him to any more danger. Should I step in and banish the Dragon King?" the strange man suggested.

"Don't ask me, I don't mind, just worried you might drive away the Dragon King and that young lad would be upset." The president shrugged.

The strange man was a bit stunned, incredulously staring at the president: "Could it be he really intends to slay the Dragon King? Surely, you don't think he could actually slay the Dragon King?"

"Who's to say?" the president responded ambiguously.

Boom!

Another red light appeared in the sky, with red and blue beams contending against the Black Dragon's Light of the White Eye, forcibly halting its advance.

"Dual Casting Spirit..." The strange man was already somewhat numb, as Li Xiu's abilities repeatedly exceeded his expectations.

Li Xiu's Evil Spirit Token and Forbidden Spear were unleashed entirely, and yet they only managed to delay the advance of the Light of the White Eye.

A moment later, the Light of the White Eye surged again, more of it surpassing the Light of the Life Evil Spirit and the Light of the Death Evil Spirit, streaming toward Li Xiu.

"Is there really a magic spirit with endless Light of Truth in this world? Would it not be invincible then?" Li Xiu frowned, staring at the Black Dragon with eyes glowing like a malevolent ghost.

He naturally did not believe that such an entity truly existed in the world. If such an entity did exist, it would not simply be a Divine Position; at least it should have been Unparalleled, perhaps even a creator.

Li Xiu was very clear that a Divine Position Level could not possess infinite energy.

"The problem should be with the Dead Sea, right?" Li Xiu had actually noticed some clues.

He speculated that the Black Dragon must be able to harness the power of the Dead Sea; otherwise, it wouldn't remain within the Dead Sea, never fully emerging to fight him.

However, Li Xiu had yet to understand the means by which the Black Dragon acquired the power of the Dead Sea.

Li Xiu was skilled at absorbing others' energies for his own use, yet even with his current constitution, he could not absorb and utilize as much power as the Black Dragon.

The power of the Black Dragon, however, was more effective than Super Bottle Suction.

"This child truly has an extraordinary talent. Does he have other means?" The strange man asked the president, now somewhat eager to see Li Xiu's endless means and surprises.

"Don't ask me; how would I know so much? He wasn't trained by me, I only reaped an effortless benefit," the president chuckled.

"You've indeed reaped a great benefit here..." The strange man looked at the president, who was modest despite having gained much, and could only smile wryly in resignation.

With the Light of the White Eye becoming difficult to withstand, Li Xiu did not retreat but hovered mid-air, frowning at the Light of the White Eye.

If the Profound Light previously emitted by the Black Dragon was like ocean waves, then the current Light of the White Eye was like spray.

Profound Light was fierce, while White Light was gentle; fierce assaults could be broken, but gentle infiltration was hard to defend against. Moreover, with this endless gentle light, even the mountains and rivers could not evade the danger of being submerged.

"Whether fierce or gentle, ultimately, it is all a form of energy movement. Fundamentally, there is no difference; it's merely a matter of form. No matter the form, if one can cause it to cease motion, it would cease to be a threat..." Li Xiu envisioned the scene of waves crashing against the shore.

Gigantic waves crash against rocks; the rocks do not break, the waves shatter into flowers, submerging the rocks.

But the root of all this is neither the surge nor the spray, nor the storm that triggered the giant waves, but the mobility of the seawater itself.

As the Light of the White Eye approached Li Xiu, he suddenly withdrew one palm, ceasing the red glow of the Light of the Life Evil Spirit. His entire body surged with a blue glow, but unlike the previous icy blue luster, this time it appeared somewhat dim, lacking brilliance and even carrying a somewhat lifeless aura.

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Boom!

The Forbidden Cannon once again fired a beam; the moribund blue beam made contact with the Light of the White Eye, freezing it in the air.

It wasn't frozen but rather stationary, like a painting held aloft.

More terrifyingly, this stasis seemed to spread; all the Light of the White Eye became similarly motionless in an instant.

Even the Black Dragon with eyes shining white was immobilized, like a drawing of a dragon emerging from the sea.

In the nearby sea area, the surface of the ocean was completely still; the waves halted, each crest frozen mid-air, serene yet eerie.

"This is... the absolute stasis of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast... No... the absolute stasis of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast doesn't truly halt everything, it only stops particle movement to some extent... But this looks like... like..." The strange man seemed at a loss for words.

"Death." The president nearby said slowly.

"Yes, it's like death; as if everything is dead, the Dragon King is dead, the sea is dead, even the air is dead. But how is this possible? How can the sea die, how can air die..." The strange man was baffled.

"This power comes from Purgatory," the president whispered.

"He... he passed the trial of the Gate of Purgatory..." The strange man gasped in shock.

"He's the only one who came through the Gate of Purgatory unscathed and claimed a contract," the president smiled.

"How could you let such a person go to the Celestial Sea?" The strange man looked at Li Xiu with a complex expression as he fell from the sky, charging at the immobilized Black Dragon.

"If not him, who else can I send?" Sighed the president.

"If he goes to the Celestial Sea, won't you regret it?" The strange man also sighed.

"I... have no choice..." The president watched Li Xiu with intensity.

Boom!

The huge, frozen body of the Black Dragon was shattered by a single punch from Li Xiu, its endless Light of Truth rendered useless.

"As I thought, it merely borrowed the Dead Sea's power, it never truly possessed it, nor did it absorb it for its own use. Once its connection to the Dead Sea is severed, it's just a Divine Position," Li Xiu was somewhat pleased.

Although the Black Dragon gave him some trouble, it also allowed him to further comprehend the Light of Evil Spirits and the Forbidden Light's intricacies in battle.

Especially his understanding of the Light of the Death Evil Spirit, which reached a higher level.

As the Black Dragon's body crumbled, a strange thing happened: from within emerged a dragon shadow like a dream, akin to a mist of light.

After the misty dragon shadow appeared, it flashed like a stream of light, rushing unbelievably fast toward Li Xiu.

Alarmed, Li Xiu had no idea what it was; it seemed familiar, yet he couldn't recall seeing it before, but there was no time to think. He unleashed the Light of the Death Evil Spirit to protect himself.

However, before the misty dragon shadow could reach him, the Demon Spirit Ring on Li Xiu's finger suddenly gleamed, leaving his finger and flying towards the dragon shadow.

Eyes wide, Li Xiu watched as the Demon Spirit Ring collided with the misty dragon shadow, revealing an astonishing scene.

The misty dragon shadow began to merge bit by bit into the Demon Spirit Ring, making the light on the ring grow stronger.

"What is happening?" Li Xiu stared at the Demon Spirit Ring, pondering various possibilities.

"Why does that thing belong to him? Wasn't it supposed to be with that person?" The strange man was surprised to see the light and shadow howling inside the Demon Spirit Ring, glancing at the president.

The president sighed, "How should I know? It seems this boy met that person and got that thing from him. It's his luck; I never got hold of that thing, yet he did."

The strange man said with a peculiar expression, "Yes, if you knew the Suihou Bead was with him, you probably would have tried to get it yourself and wouldn't let him hatch it."

"You do know me," the president smiled.

"Now, without the Suihou Bead and only the Heirloom Seal of the Realm, it's just not enough. Now that the Suihou Bead's spirit has merged with him, you wouldn't try to forcibly take it, would you?" The strange man looked at the president.

"You really do know me," the president narrowed his eyes, fixating on the transforming Demon Spirit Ring.

Finally, Li Xiu understood why the misty dragon shadow seemed familiar—it was very similar to the Dragon Vein Spirit, just slightly different, making it feel recognizable.

As the misty dragon shadow fully merged into what the Suihou Bead had transformed the Demon Spirit Ring into, the ring gradually transformed, taking on the appearance of the Dragon Vein Spirit.

Now, the Dragon Vein Spirit shone brightly, its power of Truth Light unimaginably horrifying, even making Li Xiu somewhat apprehensive.

"What origin does that Black Dragon have? It must have a deep connection with the Suihou Bead, no wonder it could borrow the Dead Sea's power. The Dragon Vein Spirit itself can harness the earth's luck, and that Black Dragon obviously wasn't merely borrowing luck..." Li Xiu guessed the Black Dragon's origin but couldn't ascertain its true identity.

The misty dragon shadow fully merged into the Dragon Vein Spirit's body. Now shrouded in light, Divine Light veiling it like mist, its body concealed among clouds, and it radiated such brilliance it was hard to look at.

Heaven and the sea quietly resonated with the Dragon Vein Spirit. Thunder roared, and the sea churned in waves.

The thunder became more frequent, with lightning crisscrossing the sky like countless silver dragons weaving a dance.

The ocean waves surged more violently, rushing toward the Dragon Vein Spirit from all directions, raising waves hundreds of meters high, coiling like dragons.

In the next moment, the Dragon Vein Spirit let out a dragon's roar echoing across sea and sky, bringing solemnity to all.

Thunder dissolved, the sea returned to calmness, and the Dragon Vein Spirit's body contracted back into a dazzling Demon Spirit Ring, flying back to Li Xiu, voluntarily returning to his finger.

Chapter 1004: The Eerie Ship

Dragon Vein Spirit: Capable of evolving into demonic spirit.

Rank: Divine Position.

Quality: Aurora.

Super Spirit Limit: 100%.

Light Vein: 58.

Spirit Casting: Third Form.

Light of Truth: Light of the heavenly dragon vein.

Talent Skill: Celestial Luck, Earth Luck, Human Luck, Lucky Strike, 100% must be struck.

Li Xiu was not surprised by the Dragon Vein Spirit's ascension to divine rank; it would be a surprise if it were not at the divine rank. However, after examining the Dragon Vein Spirit's attributes, Li Xiu was still somewhat astonished because its quality had unexpectedly increased to Aurora.

This was Li Xiu's third time encountering the Aurora quality; the first was himself, the second was the bride-to-be, and the third was this Dragon Vein Spirit.

Only this Dragon Vein Spirit was even stranger, having merged with the eerie fog dragon shadow, and its quality was elevated once again, from brilliance to Aurora.

The Light of the Heavenly Dragon Vein is a kind of Light of Truth that can harness the power of the heavenly dragon vein, similar to what Li Xiu had previously speculated.

The Black Dragon refused to leave the Dead Sea because it needed to tap into the power of the dragon vein there, and the boundless Light of Truth was also due to the reinforcement of the dragon vein's power in the sea, enabling it to reach such a level.

However, what exactly the heavenly dragon vein refers to, and where it can be reinforced, is still unclear to Li Xiu; he only knows that such reinforcement can be obtained in some special geographical locations.

For instance, mountains, rivers, oceans, etc. Generally speaking, places with mountains and water can gain some reinforcement, the only question is how much reinforcement.

This Dead Sea's reinforcement to the Black Dragon is obviously significant; in another place, the Black Dragon might not be so fierce.

"It's a pity that the Black Dragon left nothing after its death; its black body was just an empty shell like trash. I still don't know if it's truly dead or pretending to be dead." Li Xiu thought to himself, feeling a bit frustrated.

The Dragon Vein Spirit's ascension to divine rank made him quite happy, but his plan to obtain the Divine Position Gemstone fell through again.

Back on the ship, only the small moon was waiting for him at the bow; the president and the strange man had disappeared, likely having returned to the cabin.

"Mr. Li, you're so amazing to slay such terrifying demonic spirits as easily as taking an item out of a bag..." The small moon looked at Li Xiu with a face full of admiration, her expression not seeming feigned.

"Take me to a room to rest." Li Xiu saw no wind nor waves in the Dead Sea and didn't know when he would encounter demonic spirits again, so he planned to first recover the lost light energy and physical strength to prepare for the next battle.

The president mentioned that reaching the Celestial Sea would require at least half a month of sailing on the Dead Sea, and during this time, Li Xiu hoped to break through to the divine rank.

The small moon led Li Xiu to rest in a room; the size of this three-masted boat rivaled an aircraft carrier, with two layers and many rooms besides the hall. Yet as Li Xiu followed the small moon along the way, he didn't see a single person, not even the girls who were with the small moon previously.

"Little moon, aren't there any other people on this ship besides us?" Li Xiu asked while following behind the small moon.

"No, besides you all, only we are on this ship," answered the small moon.

"Why haven't I seen your friends then?" Li Xiu asked again.

"The rooms above are for guests; we live below," the small moon said, taking Li Xiu to the door of a room, pushing it open, and stepping aside to say, "Mr. Li, this is your room; if you need anything, just call my name."

"Who were the guests before us?" Li Xiu still wanted to learn more about this big ship.

"The guest before you..." the small moon tilted her head, thought for a moment, then smiled and said, "Wasn't it the gentleman with you and another gentleman?"

Li Xiu's expression changed slightly, and he frowned while evaluating the small moon, whose response felt deeply unsettling to him.

"Is the other gentleman you mentioned named Guan Qingzhai?" Li Xiu asked the small moon slowly, his gaze sharp enough to seemingly pierce her mind.

"I think that's the name; that gentleman doesn't like to talk, is somewhat solitary, and I heard the gentleman call him Qingzhai," the small moon recalled as she spoke.

Li Xiu simply couldn't detect any sign of deceit from the small moon's face, but if what she said were true, things would be even more bizarre.

The president brought Guan Qingzhai to the Celestial Sea, but that was sixty years ago. The small moon is so young, how could she possibly have hosted Guan Qingzhai?

Even more perplexing is the idea that could it be the ship only hosted guests when the president went to Celestial Sea? So where was the ship during those sixty years, and where were the strange man and the small moon?

"Could this be a Ghost Ship? Are the strange man and the small moon ghosts?" Li Xiu gazed at the small moon in front of him, finding it hard to associate her with ghosts.

The small moon was so lively and adorable, filled with curiosity about everything, and so kind and sincere; how could such a vibrant life possibly be a ghost?

No matter how Li Xiu examined it, the small moon was flesh and blood, with a normal person's body temperature and shadow, impossible to be a ghost.

"If there's nothing else, Mr. Li, I'll head down now." The small moon turned to leave and soon disappeared at the end of the passage.

Li Xiu looked at the closed doors along the sides of a passage, using hearing and intuition but unable to sense any trace of life nor hear any sound.

Chapter 1005: Eerie Ship (Part 2)

Li Xiu didn't enter his own room; instead, he walked to the adjacent room, grabbed the door handle, and tried to push it. The door didn't budge—it must have been locked.

Trying again would be useless, so Li Xiu returned to his room, closed the door, and lay down on the bed to rest.

The room's setup was very simple, with only a remarkably beautiful bed. Li Xiu recalled that he might have seen such a bed before; this item shouldn't count as a bed, as in ancient times it was called something else. He must have seen it on a computer before but hadn't paid attention to its name.

As he closed his eyes to rest, before he fell asleep, he suddenly heard a rhythmic knocking on the door—two knocks, followed by a pause, then another two knocks.

"Who?" Li Xiu recalled the chairman saying that while on this ship, no matter who knocks, one must never open the door.

"Knock knock..." There was no reply from outside, only the knocking sound persisted.

"Who is it exactly?" Li Xiu frowned and demanded.

"Knock knock..." No reply, just the continuous rhythmic knocking—two knocks, a pause, then another two knocks, followed by another pause.

Seeing that no one responded, Li Xiu simply ignored it, closed his eyes, and went back to sleep.

Seemingly aware that Li Xiu had no intention of opening the door, the knocking sound strangely disappeared, which, instead, piqued Li Xiu's curiosity.

"Why did the chairman say not to open the door if someone knocks? Is this really a Ghost Ship, and the knocking was from a ghost?" Li Xiu didn't hear any footsteps leaving, and he was very curious. He really wanted to open the door to see what might be outside.

But Li Xiu managed to restrain the impulse in his heart and continued resting with his eyes closed. Shortly after, he fell asleep.

Li Xiu dared to sleep for a bit longer, guessing that he had slept for about six hours before waking up, then called out, "Xiao Yue."

Originally, he thought Xiao Yue wouldn't be able to hear him, but shortly thereafter, he heard footsteps outside. Before long, those footsteps reached the door, and then the door was pushed open as Xiao Yue entered.

"Young master, what are your orders?" Xiao Yue asked respectfully.

"Have any demon spirits appeared outside?" Li Xiu inquired.

"We encountered a few demon spirits, but they've been dealt with. Young master need not worry; ordinary demon spirits can't board the ship," Xiao Yue explained quickly, considering Li Xiu might be worried about dangers.

"Were they Divine Position Demon Spirits?" Li Xiu hadn't heard any sounds, nor sensed any battle fluctuations, feeling somewhat puzzled.

This ship is large, but if a battle occurred with his current keen sense ability, he should not be completely oblivious.

"No, they weren't," Xiao Yue shook her head and said, "just some ordinary demon spirits."

"Oh." Li Xiu nodded, then looked at Xiao Yue and asked, "Before I went to sleep, someone knocked on the door. Do you know who was knocking?"

"Knocking? How could someone be knocking? Besides you and that gentleman, there are no other guests on board. That gentleman is still in the cabin; without your call, we can't come here, so no one should be knocking on your door," Xiao Yue looked confused.

Li Xiu frowned inwardly but, seeing Xiao Yue's expression, knew further inquiry would be fruitless. Thus, he came up with a thought and smiled, saying, "Xiao Yue, can you take me to see where you live?"

"That's not quite appropriate. You're a distinguished guest; how could you go to a place like where we live..." Xiao Yue hesitated.

Seeing Xiao Yue hadn't directly refused, Li Xiu just smiled and said, "The ship will be at sea for at least half a month, and it's really quite boring. Why don't you take me on a little tour?"

"Alright, if the young master doesn't mind, then follow me," Xiao Yue said without refusing further, leading Li Xiu out of the guest room.

Where Xiao Yue and the others lived wasn't accessed from the same entrance as the clients. They took a lap on the deck before Xiao Yue entered a door. Inside, there was a narrow staircase leading downward, also made of wood.

The entire ship was made of wood; Li Xiu didn't see a single nail, as if everything was constructed with mortise and tenon joints.

Following the narrow staircase down, there was a long corridor. On the two walls, at intervals, there was a bead that resembled a Luminous Bead; there were no electric lights in here—not even oil lamps. The beads' dim glow was the only source of light for the dark corridor.

Fortunately, Li Xiu wasn't afraid of darkness; he had the ability to see in the dark, so it didn't bother him.

The corridor was long, and after a turn, it remained a corridor. If it weren't for the doors along the way, Li Xiu would have doubted whether he was walking through the same corridor.

After several turns, Xiao Yue stopped in front of a door and, somewhat embarrassed, said to Li Xiu, "Young master, this is where we live. Are you sure you want to go in?"

"We're here now, let's have a look. Do I need to greet your sisters first?" Li Xiu thought for a moment and asked.

After all, if it's a place where young girls live, he feared seeing something inappropriate.

"No need." Xiao Yue shook her head, reached out, and pushed the door open.

As the wooden door slowly opened with a creak, Li Xiu curiously glanced inside, eager to see what the place where these young girls lived looked like.

But once he clearly saw the situation inside, his expression changed drastically.

Chapter 1006: The Eerie Ship (Part 3)

Inside the door was a space even larger than the previous hall, supported by wooden pillars. It was nothing like the dormitory Li Xiu had imagined; instead, it resembled a warehouse.

The reason for Li Xiu's drastic change in expression wasn't the sheer size of the space, but rather the rows upon rows of black wooden coffins filling the warehouse-like room, likely numbering in the thousands.

This was certainly no little girl's boudoir. Calling it a mortuary would be flattering it; even mortuaries wouldn't contain so many coffins. Besides, why would there be so many coffins on a ship?

"Do you live here?" Li Xiu asked Xiaoyue, looking at her with a strange expression.

If Xiaoyue lived in such a place, then was she human or ghost?

"Yes... that's where I sleep..." Xiaoyue walked to a coffin near the door, its lid partially ajar, and said bashfully, "It's the first time someone wanted to see where we live, so it's a bit embarrassing."

Li Xiu, with a peculiar look, walked over to Xiaoyue and peeked inside the coffin, finding it completely empty.

"Can I look at the other coffins?" Li Xiu asked, glancing at Xiaoyue.

"If you want to see them, you just need to call their names, they'll come out on their own. No need to trouble you, sir," Xiaoyue said.

"No problem." Li Xiu casually pushed open the coffin next to him, revealing inside a little girl about Xiaoyue's age. She lay there with a rosy complexion as if asleep, yet Li Xiu heard no breathing or heartbeat.

Even with the noise of Li Xiu opening the coffin lid, the girl didn't awaken, remaining motionless inside.

Li Xiu felt a tingling sensation at the back of his neck, suspecting he had stumbled into a Vampire's lair.

"Xiaoxue, the young master is here to see you," Xiaoyue called softly to the girl inside the coffin.

Though the girl showed no signs of breathing or heartbeat, Xiaoyue's call miraculously made her open her eyes, and she seemed to resume breathing and her heart started beating.

The little girl sat up immediately, climbed out of the coffin, and hurriedly saluted Li Xiu, saying, "I didn't know the young master was coming, please forgive my lack of courtesy."

"No worries, I'm the one intruding." Li Xiu glanced at the other coffins, but had no urge to open any more.

"Xiaoyue, are all your companions here?" Li Xiu asked.

"Yes, everyone is here," Xiaoyue replied with a nod.

Li Xiu asked nothing further, allowing Xiaoyue to lead him away.

"What's the deal with this big ship? Are Xiaoyue and the others human or ghost? And what is that strange man's identity?" Li Xiu thought of numerous questions but found no answers.

Xiaoyue and Xiaoxue seemed to be very much alive. If he encountered them elsewhere, Li Xiu would never doubt their identities.

But the situation here was strange. They appeared alive, yet, when inside coffins, they were like the dead.

"Xiaoyue mentioned the last guests were the President and Guan Qingzhai; could it be they've been sleeping in those coffins for sixty years?" The more Li Xiu thought, the eerier it felt. How could humans sleep in a coffin for sixty years without food or drink?

Even for someone like Li Xiu, who could rival a Divine Position, sixty years of sleep without sustenance was impossible, not to mention even six years or six months.

Back on the deck, Li Xiu pondered the scene with the coffins. On this vast ship, there was only the strange man and these children who were neither human nor ghost. What was the ship's origin?

Li Xiu headed to the hall, but as he reached the entrance, he heard the strange man's voice from the ship's bow: "My old friend drank a bit too much and has gone to the guest room to rest. Would the young gentleman be interested in a chat with this old man?"

With an unchanged expression, Li Xiu turned toward the ship's bow, finding the strange man sitting on the rail, holding a wine pot in one hand and something else in the other, drinking in the sea breeze.

"How should I address you?" Li Xiu asked the strange man.

"Names... I've long forgotten mine. Call me 'uncle' if you like or 'old man' if you prefer not," the strange man replied breezily.

"What would you like to talk about?" Li Xiu frowned.

Not even giving his name, how was this a sincere attempt at conversation?

As if reading Li Xiu's thoughts, the strange man smiled, "Don't misunderstand, young gentleman. It's not that I don't want to tell you my name; I've truly forgotten it."

Knowing Li Xiu was skeptical, the strange man continued, "It's normal not to believe, but if you were on the sea alone for thousands of years, with no one to talk to or keep you company, just staring at the sea, you'd forget many unimportant things too."

"But aren't Xiaoyue and the others here on the ship?" Li Xiu spotted a flaw in his words and said directly.

"They... aren't human..." Li Xiu never expected the strange man to say such a thing.

While Li Xiu also felt Xiaoyue and her companions weren't human, he wouldn't say so in front of Xiaoyue. Yet the strange man stated it so bluntly, which even Li Xiu found somewhat cruel.

Glancing at Xiaoyue beside him, he found her eyes vacant, lacking any focus, like a soulless body, mechanically turning to leave.

"Young sir, though I don't remember my name, I can tell you a story. After hearing it, you should be able to know who I am," the strange man said, taking a swig from his drink and wiping his mouth.

"What story?" Li Xiu asked, looking at the strange man.

"The tale of a man who went to sea in search of immortality," the strange man said, gazing at the endless ocean.

Chapter 1007: I Am God

"Are you Xu Fu?" Li Xiu looked at the strange man, somewhat surprised.

Though it was just a sentence, in thousands of years of human history, the person worthy of this sentence is only one – Xu Fu, who was ordered by Qin Shi Huang to lead thousands of boys and girls to go out to sea in search of the Elixir of Longevity. Besides him, no one else could bear this sentence.

"Could it be that Xiaoyue and the others are the girls who followed Xu Fu out to sea? Are those sleeping in the coffins the very boys and girls?" Li Xiu suddenly connected many things.

Yet there were still many questions. Xu Fu should be a human from Earth. Even if there was a real quest for the Elixir of Longevity, it should have been on Earth. How did he end up in the Dead Sea of the Demon Spirit Realm? And how could he stay above the Dead Sea for thousands of years? What did he mean by saying Xiaoyue and the others are not humans?

The strange man smiled and said, "It seems you have heard the story of Xu Fu going out to sea, but the story I'm going to tell you today might be a little different from what you've heard."

Li Xiu stared at the strange man silently; he really wanted to know what kind of story the weird man would tell.

"Do you know the origin of the legend of immortality?" the strange man asked with a smile.

"Isn't it a hypothesis proposed by alchemists?" Li Xiu pondered.

"Alchemists were initially a group of people pursuing the immortal path, seeking immortality indeed was what they did, but whose proposal was it, and there should be a source for this belief," the strange man said.

"That's something I haven't researched," Li Xiu shook his head and replied.

The strange man smiled, saying, "Pangu opened up the heavens and earth, Nuwa and Fu Xi created humans, Kuafu chased the sun, Hou Yi shot down the suns. In ancient myths, humans only played the role of being rescued. Until the time of the Emperors Yan and Huang and Chi You, humans were still mere supporting characters in the world. To say who gave humans the belief to seek the path to immortality, everyone may have their answers, and my answer is the appearance of the Tao."

"Taoism?" Li Xiu muttered.

"You mentioned Taoism and not the Taoist religion, which shows you have some knowledge in this area, so my story will be easier to explain."

The strange man gazed into the distant sea and said softly, "My story begins with someone who discovered the Tao."

"Tao has never been a religion. There are countless religions in the world, yet all have gods and demons, and humans can only seek protection from them. Only Tao pursues the laws and truths between heaven and earth. Saying Taoists were ancient scientists is not far-fetched. Long ago, there was a young man who aspired to establish his own school of thought, becoming the founding ancestor whose teachings would endure through the ages. But in that era, great masters were everywhere. Though the young man had some talent, he was notably inferior compared with the prominent figures of his time."

"Though the young man knew that with his talent, it was almost impossible to establish his own sect, he was proud and refused to give up. Until he met someone, someone who should have died long ago."

"Who?" Though Li Xiu vaguely guessed whom the person might be, he still wanted to hear the answer directly from the strange man.

The strange man didn't answer him and continued, "That person took the young man to a world he couldn't even dream of imagining. Even the Immortal Realm was likely comparable, delivering an unimaginable shock to the young man. Proud as he was, he had to admit, compared to this world, all his previous thoughts were naive and laughable."

"After returning from that peculiar and colorful world, the person told the young man that soon he would receive a tremendous opportunity. If he could grasp it, he would have the chance to seek the path of immortality. But the person mentioned a few tasks the young man had to complete, or else he would miss out on the immortal destiny."

"Sure enough, not long after, when the young man accompanied the reigning emperor during a coastal inspection, they saw an apparition of a fairy mountain over the sea. The sight shocked everyone, including the supreme emperor of the Mortal World, who was left dumbstruck..." The strange man narrated slowly.

Li Xiu knew the event the strange man referred to, should be when Qin Shi Huang saw the mirage by the sea, the legend about him sending people to search for the fairy mountain and the Elixir of Longevity's starting point.

"I know what you're thinking. I can confidently tell you that what they saw was not a mirage. Do you think the emperor, who swept across the lands, would not know what a mirage is? Even if he didn't know or hadn't seen one, wouldn't there be unusual scholars among his people who had knowledge of it?"

The strange man chuckled, "The young man saw the phenomenon and knew the opportunity mentioned by that person had arrived. Boldly, he recounted his experiences in that unbelievable world, persuading the emperor and following the tasks given by the person, he petitioned to go out to sea to seek the Elixir of Longevity, using the sacred tree to build a ship and taking boys and girls as sacrificial offerings."

"So, Xu Fu took the boys and girls out to sea as offerings, which is why the strange man said Xiaoyue and the others are not humans," Li Xiu thought to himself.

"The young man was ambitious, believing that after this expedition, he would surely acquire immortality, becoming an existence above kings of the Mortal World. Once he stood at such a height, establishing a sect would be trivial. He could even defecate on the emperor's crown, and no one could stop him. But when he really took the boys and girls out to sea, he realized everything was wrong... profoundly wrong... It was a decision he would regret for the rest of his life..."

Chapter 1008: I Am God (2)

The stranger's face was almost obscured by tangled hair and beard, yet the twisted expression of agony was still visible.

"He didn't obtain the immortal fate?" Li Xiu pursued the question.

"He did, but it wasn't the immortality he desired. If he could do it all over again, he would rather face death than possess such a form of immortality," the stranger sighed, "If a person achieves eternal life yet must spend their days aboard a ship, isolated and alone, sailing in a world without end, without a beginning, without an endpoint, never able to disembark. Would you want such immortality?"

"I don't know." Li Xiu shook his head slightly.

"Of course you don't know, because you haven't experienced such loneliness." The stranger abruptly took a swig of alcohol, then tossed the flask to Li Xiu, saying, "The young man has attained immortality, but now he desires only death, such a simple wish, a capability any ordinary person possesses, yet he can no longer fulfill it."

Li Xiu caught the flask but refrained from drinking, recalling the chairman's words that nothing aboard the ship should be consumed.

"You are Xu Fu, who set sail to seek the Elixir of Longevity. Who was the person you encountered?" Li Xiu stared at the stranger and asked.

"Who do you think it was?" The stranger countered with a half-smile.

"The chairman?" Li Xiu guessed.

"Did he tell you that nothing on the ship should be consumed?" The stranger didn't answer, instead spoke abruptly.

Li Xiu didn't reply, just looked at the stranger.

"You don't have to worry; he's inside the guest room and can't hear anything from outside," the stranger said.

"Whether he hears or not makes no difference to me," Li Xiu commented.

"Really? If I told you not eating anything onboard meant you could never leave the ship, would you still think that?" The stranger said with a half-smile, looking at Li Xiu.

"Why?" Li Xiu frowned.

"Because you were sent to replace me; your fate will be the same as mine: eternally ageless, living countless lonely years upon the Dead Sea..." The stranger's voice was ghostly, making Li Xiu's hairs stand on end.

"A contradiction! Since you possess an ageless body, why need a substitute?" Li Xiu naturally didn't believe him.

"Because he can no longer obtain what he wants from me, he needs a compliant person as my substitute to control the ship. He's done this before, only without success. But you're different; you have the capability to replace me," the stranger sneered, continuing, "Did you seriously believe he wants to take you to the Celestial Sea? There are many ways to reach it; why insist on this long voyage aboard this ship? It's because only if you've been onboard long enough can you become part of the ship, have your soul imprinted upon it, never to leave. This alcohol can resist the ship's assimilation of you; only by drinking it can you avoid being combined with the ship, can you disembark. Think carefully, why would he prevent you from eating or drinking while desperately consuming meat and alcohol himself?"

Li Xiu, reflecting, indeed found it strange; going to the Celestial Sea could directly use the Trial Gate, yet the chairman took the hard route—sailing aboard the Dead Sea for so many days—it truly seemed illogical.

"What does he want from you?" Li Xiu, maintaining composure, watched the stranger and asked.

"What else? Naturally, the sacrifices," the stranger replied.

"You mean Xiao Yue and the others?" Li Xiu hesitated slightly.

The stranger chuckled, "Why do you think he deceived me into bringing young boys and girls aboard? He wants those young ones; they're the finest of human lineage, what he truly needs."

"With his capabilities, he should be able to snatch them directly, without such hassle," Li Xiu said.

"Didn't I just tell you, Xiao Yue and the others aren't fully human anymore. Ordinary human lineage is of no use to him. The Eternal Life has been on the Dead Sea for thousands of years; Xiao Yue and the others have been transformed, and it's them he needs now," the stranger sneered wickedly, "The story is done; believe it or not is up to you. The wine is in your hand; drink or not, it's your choice whether to leave the ship."

With that, the stranger turned towards the cabin, but at the door, he turned back, revealing his ghostly teeth as he said to Li Xiu, "If you don't believe me, wait until you're asleep—if someone knocks, open to see."

"Who's knocking?" Li Xiu frowned and asked.

"Those who sailed before and consumed nothing," the stranger finished and entered the cabin.

Li Xiu frowned but said nothing. Though many of the stranger's words bore flaws, they weren't entirely implausible.

"Things are getting interesting; according to the stranger, he's Xu Fu. So the one who granted him the opportunity must be that Daoist master... then the chairman..." Li Xiu watched the undulating sea, finding it increasingly intriguing.

After a while, seeing no reaction from the dragon head, no magic spirits approaching the ship, and the chairman still absent, Li Xiu returned to his room to rest.

Just after lying down, the door echoed with knocking.

Chapter 1009: I Am God (Part 3)

"Who is it?" Li Xiu sat up and asked, looking at the door of the room.

There was no response, just the rhythmic knocking sound, and Li Xiu stared at the door, involuntarily recalling the strange words the eccentric man had spoken.

"Is the one knocking really someone who hasn't dined and drunk on this ship before?" Li Xiu felt an urge to open the door and take a look.

However, Li Xiu suppressed the impulse in his heart, lay back down, and continued to sleep, ignoring the knocking.

For several days, Li Xiu went to bed hungry, as he had not encountered a Divine Position Demon Spirit and had little interest in killing the ordinary demon spirits.

Although the demon spirits that survived in the Dead Sea were at least Light Base level, unfortunately, Li Xiu was no longer interested in Light Base demon spirits now.

When Li Xiu saw the eccentric man again, he didn't even glance at Li Xiu. After that, the eccentric man never approached him for a conversation, as if the previous talk had never happened.

The president, on the other hand, was the same as before, eating and drinking without care, and said nothing more to Li Xiu, only suggesting he rest well to conserve strength.

Every time Li Xiu went to sleep, there would be the knocking, but it never lasted long, mostly only ten rhythmic knocks. Li Xiu never opened the door, and the knocking would disappear.

As days went by, Li Xiu gradually developed a strange feeling, as if he could slowly sense the big ship.

This sensation was very peculiar. Once, when Li Xiu returned to his room and thought of opening the door, the door opened by itself before he even reached out.

At first, Li Xiu thought there was something in his room, but after searching and finding nothing, he realized there was nothing there—the door had opened because of his consciousness.

Li Xiu conducted some experiments and found he could indeed use his mind to command the door to open and even bring furniture to him automatically.

Even more terrifying, he could sense the dragon head's warning at the bow of the ship.

While in his room, he sensed the dragon's warning signal. Initially thinking it was his illusion, going out on deck confirmed the dragon head reacted—a Divine Position Demon Spirit was approaching the ship.

This made Li Xiu reconsider the words the eccentric man had told him, and he couldn't help glancing at the jug of wine on the table.

The Divine Position Demon Spirit was far inferior to the Black Dragon, and Li Xiu used only the Forbidden Spear to blast it away, seizing its Demon Core. Unfortunately, nothing came out of it—not even a Talent Gemstone, let alone a Divine Position Gemstone.

The corpse of the demon spirit, however, was dragged onto the ship by Li Xiu. It was Divine Position Level material, which he intended to bring back for the old official to craft Demon Armor.

As time went by, Li Xiu's sensitivity to the ship increased, to the point where he could sense the friction of the ship's movement over the sea. Any demon spirit approaching the ship was detectable by Li Xiu before the dragon head signaled.

He could even clearly sense the form and level of the demon spirits, which left Li Xiu somewhat puzzled.

When he saw the president again, Li Xiu decided he wanted to hear what the president had to say.

Taking the opportunity when the president finished eating and was smoking alone, Li Xiu approached him.

Before Li Xiu could speak, the president smiled and said, "No need to say anything, just remember what I told you before you came."

Li Xiu paused, then laughed and asked, "How much longer until we reach the Celestial Sea?"

"Soon, probably in four more days at most," the president said, puffing on his pipe, his expression somewhat grim.

"Guan Jinghao told me something," Li Xiu continued.

The president turned to look at Li Xiu, smiling, "He said I'm not human, right?"

"Are you?" Li Xiu met the president's gaze unyieldingly.

"From his perspective, he's not wrong," the president's reply surprised Li Xiu a little.

"Where are you from? The Demon Kingdom?" Li Xiu asked again.

"You guessed half of it correctly," the president said with a smile.

This answer sparked many thoughts in Li Xiu's mind, and he stared at the president with a complex expression. "You founded the Demon Kingdom?"

"Smart," the president's expression showed a hint of approval.

"Are you the Demon Country Celestial Emperor?" Even though he had guessed, Li Xiu was still a bit shocked.

The president said nothing but smiled, which was implicit acknowledgment.

"So, you're not from the Demon Kingdom, but from the outside world?" Li Xiu gazed at the president with a complicated expression.

"It's nothing surprising. Isn't your sister from the outside world? Is that so shocking to you?" the president said with a mischievous smile.

"You know my sister?" Li Xiu was taken aback.

"The old eighth divined the celestial secret for me, predicting my death because of Ling'Er. Your sister is Han Ling'Er. Old folks fear death, so I learned some things," the president said nonchalantly, blowing a smoke ring.

"So?" Li Xiu asked, staring at the president.

If the president intended harm toward Han Ling'Er, Li Xiu, even at the cost of his life, wouldn't allow the president to succeed.

"Even if I told you, you might not believe it," the president said lightly.

"How can you know I won't believe without saying it?" Li Xiu rebutted.

"If I said your sister isn't even qualified to take my life, would you believe it?" The president looked at Li Xiu, smiling ambiguously.

Li Xiu looked at the president without speaking; in fact, he didn't really believe it. The president was strong, but Li Xiu felt Han Ling'Er should be even stronger, at least that's how both made him feel.

"You think your sister is strong, and you're not wrong. She is indeed strong, strong enough to surprise even me. But in essence, she's no different from you, while I am different," the president slowly said.

"How are you different?" Li Xiu asked, staring at the president.

"She is human...and I...am a god," the president said with squinted eyes.

Chapter 1010: Celestial Sea Island

"God?" Li Xiu couldn't see how such a wretched old guy could be considered a god.

Li Xiu admitted the chairman was strong, but to what extent, he couldn't determine, since he hadn't seen the chairman in a true battle state.

"Besides the matter of going to the Celestial Sea, what else do you want to know? Since we've reached this point, just ask everything clearly at once," the chairman said.

"Why did the Demon Kingdom dissipate?" Li Xiu wanted to ask about Bu'Er, but feared everything about Bu'Er was caused by the chairman.

"Because I failed." The chairman's answer was concise.

"Who defeated you?" Li Xiu was curious who defeated the chairman, causing the empire to fragment, and the Celestial Emperor had to hide his identity and come to Earth to establish the Eternal Heaven.

"No one could defeat me, I was defeated by this world," the chairman said, looking far away with a complicated expression: "Some things, even if I tell you, you won't be able to understand."

"If you don't say, how do you know I can't understand?" Li Xiu replied.

The chairman chuckled and said, "Alright, then I'll explain in the simplest terms, and how much you can understand, that's your own matter."

After pondering for a moment, the chairman said: "Do you know how to advance from Divine Position to Unparalleled?"

"I've heard you need to break through truth," Li Xiu answered.

"Truth is the rules, but rules themselves have limitations, like basketball, you must abide by the basketball rules; if you violate the rules, you must face punishment," the chairman said meaningfully, "If this world is likened to a basketball court, then you are all players on the court, you must abide by the court rules, or face punishment. But this world's punishment is not as simple as fouls and being benched; it might take your life. But I don't belong to this court, so even if I break the rules, there are no penalties."

"In other words, you are equivalent to Unparalleled," Li Xiu said.

"Completely different, Unparalleled can indeed break rules, but if we still use basketball as a metaphor, Unparalleled are those who can escape the referee's eye, doing little tricks not allowed by rules. People outside the court like me are entirely different," the chairman said.

"In essence, you are the same as my sister," Li Xiu pondered.

The chairman shook his head again: "That's why I said it's hard to explain. Let's say your sister is a player from another court, still different from me."

Li Xiu indeed found it hard to understand, even though the metaphor was clear, it was difficult for him to form an effective system of understanding.

"Since the chairman is so powerful, even Unparalleled is nothing to you, why do you still need me to replace you in the battle?" Li Xiu tried another way to learn more.

"I've already said, I can't answer the matter of the Celestial Sea; you'll naturally know later," the chairman said expressionlessly, "I can only tell you these things. Whether you believe or not is your own choice; I won't interfere with your choice."

Upon hearing this, Li Xiu vaguely felt the chairman knew what the strange man had said to him.

"Can you tell me about Black Death City? Shouldn't this be unrelated to the Celestial Sea?" Li Xiu didn't give up on wanting to learn more secrets.

The chairman looked at Li Xiu with a complex expression and said: "You've seen the Unparalleled King, right?"

Li Xiu nodded, and the chairman continued, "Since you've seen it, you should know about the Spirit Suppressing Stone. I'm the one who shattered the Spirit Suppressing Stone back then; one shard fell into Black Death City, turning it into a strange land."

"Is that all?" Li Xiu frowned and asked.

He wanted to know not just these things, but the connection between the City of Love and Black Death City.

"I know what you want to know, but I can't answer those because they're related to the Celestial Sea. If you're lucky on this trip to the Celestial Sea, you should find the answer," the chairman smiled.

Li Xiu was somewhat annoyed; every time it came to a crucial question, the chairman would bring up the Celestial Sea.

Although Li Xiu knew that Black Death City was indeed connected to the Celestial Sea, the chairman's half-telling and half-revealing was really frustrating.

"Go back and rest," the chairman turned and moved toward the cabin.

The chairman didn't want to say more, and Li Xiu had no choice but to return to rest in the cabin.

Li Xiu sat on the deck, with his head down, pondering the information he got from the chairman.

The chairman was the Celestial Emperor of the Demon Country. Li Xiu had such assumptions before, but never thought it would truly be.

As the Celestial Emperor of the Demon Country, the chairman said he was defeated by the world; relating it to what Guan Jinghao had told him before, Li Xiu couldn't help but suspect the chairman really wanted to destroy the world. But why would he want to destroy the world? What benefit would that bring to him?

If he only wanted to leave the world, then he shouldn't need to do such a thing. Han Ling'Er also came from outside this world and was searching for a way back, and seemed to have a hint already.

The chairman himself said he was stronger than Han Ling'Er; if that is true, he should also have the ability to leave like Han Ling'Er. Destroying the world just to leave makes no sense.